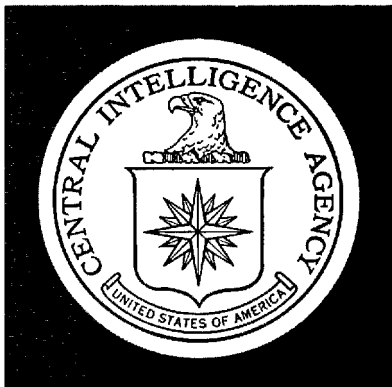


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USSR-Finland: Moscow is pressing the Finnish Communists to settle their factional differences. (Page 6)

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USSR-Finland: Moscow is putting pressure on the Finnish Communist Party to force a "compromise" between the ruling liberal faction and the conservative dissidents.

Soviet pressure has prevented the liberals from following up their victory at the party congress last April. The Soviets have repeatedly warned against a purge of the conservative rebels.

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Soviet pressure has been largely responsible for putting off from 31 May to 14 June the deadline on unity negotiations between the factions. Prospects for the talks remain dim, inasmuch as the conservative negotiating position amounts to a demand for nullification of the liberal victory at the April congress.

the Soviets have reduced their financial support of the Finnish party in the past weeks. Despite Moscow's official neutrality in the struggle, its action undercuts the liberal leadership, which is also being hurt by the conservatives' refusal to pay dues or to accept responsibility for any share of the party's expenses.

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The party leadership has sought a way out of the impasse by asking for Soviet guidance on the limits of factionalism beyond which a purge of the dissidents would be considered justified.

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